

OFFICIAL EMBLEM OF

THE MAYANS

All material, discourses, lectures, illustrations, lessons, scientific dissertations and letters of transmittal appearing under this Official Emblem are protected by copyright. They may not be quoted except by official and written permission of The Mayans. They are not for sale but are prepared for the private use of Members of our Order. The recipient of this manuscript agrees by acceptance to hold it Private as the property of The Mayans to be delivered up to the Order upon demand. All rights in the material appearing beneath this cover are reserved by The Mayans, including the privilege of translations into other languages.

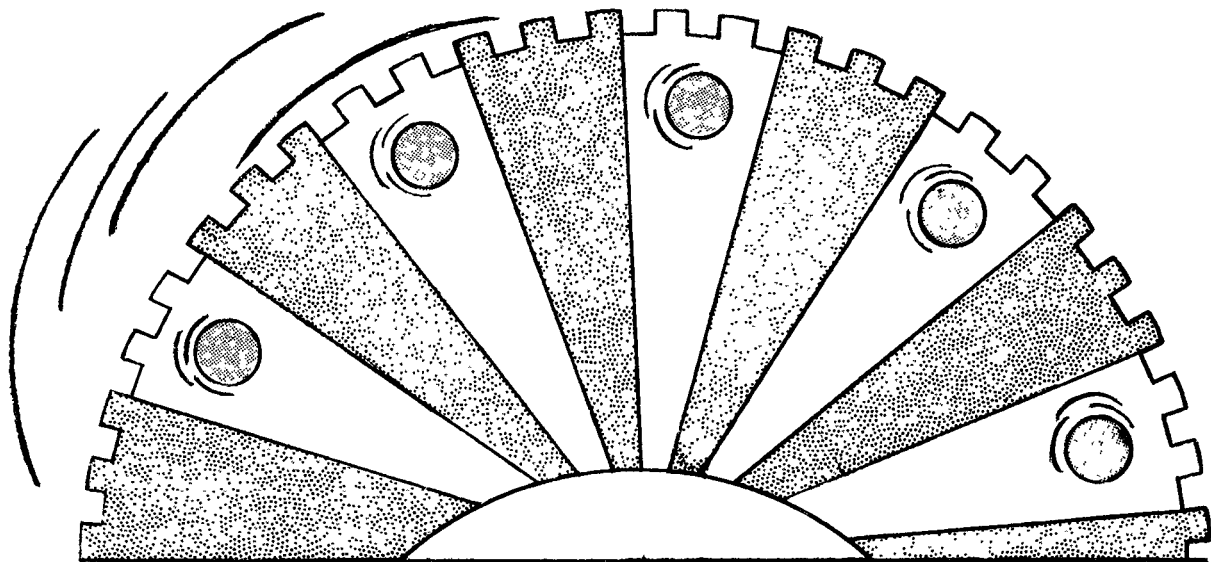
VADE MECUM, VOLVENTIBUS ANNIS

THE MAYANS
SAN ANTONIO,
TEXAS

Degree 3

Number 21

Copyright 1937 by The Mayans



THE ANCIENT LAW OF UNIVERSAL JUSTICE

"Though the Wheels of God grind slowly,
Yet they grind exceedingly small
Though with patience He stands waiting,
With exactness He grinds all."

--Longfellow

Beloved Companion:

As Companions in the eternal quest for truth, we have sought introduction to the subject of Karma in the Twentieth Revelation of The Mayan Order. Let us now consider another aspect of a many sided truth. Study this thoughtfully so that its revelations may come to you. Here are deep waters and great ancient wisdom.

As yet the ancient Sanskrit term KARMA is somewhat unfamiliar to western ears even though this word sums up in five letters the scientific mysteries of existence.

Karma is not merely "action", rather it has many shades of meaning that, when fully appreciated, throw more light upon the Problems of Life. We have learned that Karma is:

- I. ACTION
- II. THE FRUIT OF ACTION
- III. ACTION AS IT AFFECTS THE CHARACTER OF MAN
- IV. RETRIBUTION
- V. JUSTICE, OR THE LAW OF COMPENSATION

- * -

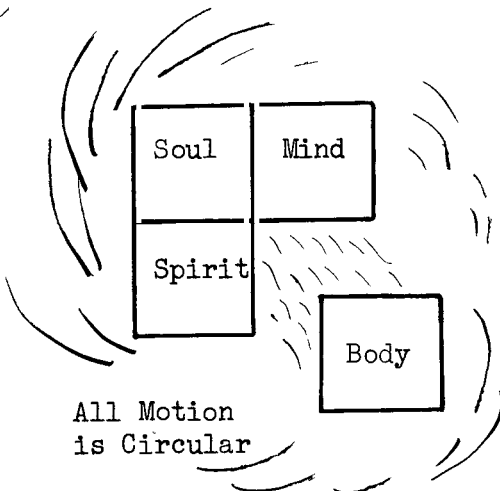
The great philosopher, Emerson, in his Essay on Compensation tells us:
"Ever since I was a boy I wished to write a discourse on Compensation, for it

seemed to me when very young that on this subject, life was ahead of theology and people knew more than the preachers taught. The documents, too, from which the doctrine is to be drawn, charmed my fancy by their endless variety and lay always before me, even in my sleep for they are the tools in our hands, the bread in our basket, the transactions of the street, the farm and the dwelling house, greetings, relations, debts and credits, the influence of character, the nature and endowment of all men. It seemed to me also that in it might be shown men, a ray of divinity, the present action of the soul in this world, clean from all vestige of tradition and so the heart of man might be bathed by an inundation of eternal love, conversing with that which he knows was always, and always must be because it really is now.

"It appeared, moreover, that if this doctrine could be stated in terms with any resemblance to those bright intuitions in which this truth is sometimes revealed to us, it would be a star in many dark hours and crooked passages in our journey that would not suffer us to lose our way".

Thus, long before the idea of Universal Justice or Karmic Law was to become more generally known or accepted in the western world, the great philosopher Emerson was translating the ancient thought of the East and the Mayans into modern terms. Imbued with the beautiful literature and the contemporary wisdom of the ancients, Emerson penned an essay unique in the annals of American literature.

- * -



Karma is not merely justice, not merely compensation nor action and retribution; rather, it is YOU, the sum-total of all your thoughts, actions or deeds, your mental attitudes, your emotional reactions or the entire make-up of your personal and individual nature and life. It is absolute justice in that it gives to each and every human soul the just outcome of thought and action.

Perhaps you may have wondered just why it is that human beings are drawn into the maelstrom of life without any apparent measure of choice. Some are born under kindly stars and some under adverse conditions while still others are born into a life of mediocrity, ignorance, suffering or sorrow. Many and many have been the theories that man has devised to "explain" the inexplicable mysteries of creation, human life and suffering. Few, indeed, of these theories could stand rigorous scientific examination in the light of reason and intuition.

Three theories should be considered. They are:

- I. PREDESTINATION
- II. ANNIHILATION
- III. KARMA

PREDESTINATION Predestination is the theory or doctrine that God has, from the beginning of Time, ordered or destined that which comes to pass. This doctrine is unphilosophical and unscientific as it allows no freedom to men and denies the boundless love of God. It stands to reason that what has been predestined from the beginning of Time, has no real necessity for Being. That is, if the great wars of the last few decades were destined since the beginning of creation, was it at all necessary that the physical universe need come into being? Why not select the elect and destroy the "damned" from the beginning? Philosophically, this argument is absurd and has no place in real religion which teaches in stern words:

"As ye sow, so shall ye reap".

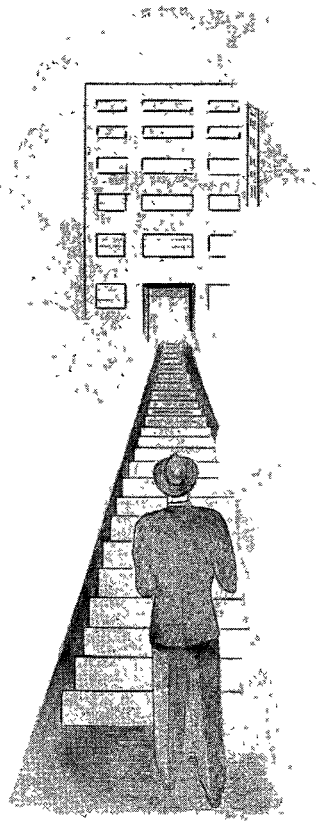
ANNIHILATION Annihilation is perhaps the argument of the scientific school of materialism that grew up in the late nineteenth century. Its "philosophical and scientific basis or foundation" is to be found in biological reasoning without intuition, materialistic thought. The fundamental principle of this theory is that the human "soul" is but the result of biological or chemical conditions and that it is wiped out of existence by death. Annihilation cannot safely be termed a philosophy as it denies the fundamental truths of Nature and ignores the findings of true science. It is the philosophy of despair.

KARMA Coming to the third theory, we have KARMA, the eternal law of Mayan justice. Many people, ancient and modern, have held to this truth. It has been called the law of ethical causation, of action and reaction, Nemesis or rigid absolute justice, retribution allotted to every man according to his deeds and thoughts. Karma is the only scientific and philosophical conception or theory open to consideration by mind seeking Truth, because it explains the mysteries of life, the apparent injustice of existence, the purpose of life and perhaps the ultimate goal of existence.

It is wise, however, that the term Karma is not confused with that of Fate or Nemesis, even though at times some human soul may appear to be ground unjustly under the wheels of the gods. The Twentieth Revelation should be carefully studied and mastered and then consideration given to this Twenty First Revelation.

- * -

It is known in scientific Astrology that the positions of the planets in the signs of the Zodiac and the angles or aspects they cast to each other or points in the horoscope, illustrate the character, ability, Karma and mentality of the new born baby.



Symbolically speaking, the Universe can be likened to a vast factory for the manufacture of Souls. That is, the Universe as we know it, is but the outermost fringe of the real and eternal Universe. Matter is Spirit, solid, tangible Spirit, and it remains ETERNAL. Therefore nothing is wasted.

Fire that consumes wood, coal, paper or material merely changes the atomic structure of this matter and transforms it back into the ether where it again awaits transformation into what we term matter. An example of this fact is apparent in the precipitation of water and then its transformation into steam and dissipation into the air.

One of the logical theories to account for the old Ice Age has to do with the instantaneous precipitation of the moisture in the air into water and ice due to the sudden and intense cold that once swept the earth. This idea may account for the great mammoths that found themselves caught in the midst of the ice.,

Another theory is that with the change of the poles, the oceans swept over the land and froze solid in certain parts of the earth. However, whether the great ice packs slowly moved down from the north or the oceans ran riot over the earth, it is apparent that the great mammals would have been crushed to death rather than preserved as they were in life if the precipitation of moisture is not the logical explanation of this mystery.

St. Paul tells us that the things that are seen are temporal or non-eternal while the things that are unseen are spiritual and eternal. Now science is gradually verifying these ancient truths of religion in its study of the ether. Matter is Spirit and man is and has always been at one with Nature and at one with God.

Many indeed are the idle speculations that man, in his conceit, has called science. He has vainly endeavored to find the source of fuel that feeds the mighty "furnace" of the Sun, which through countless ages has deviated but little from its appointed task.

In Mayan Occultism, the Sun is looked upon as a cold body, fed by electro-magnetic forces that are semi-spiritual or spiritual in origin. In turn, the Sun gives off electro-magnetic rays that become light and heat when they reach the atmospheric aura of a world.

Many indeed are the mysteries that illustrate the divine justice and purpose of the One Creator. The vast form or pattern of Nature did not originate from mere caprice. It has behind it a purpose ages old and eternal. Man is one step in that purpose. Behind him lies the experience of countless lives in the lesser kingdoms of Nature; before him stand glories unimaginable even in the

highest reaches of this thought. As part of the ONE LIFE, man is also a creator with the Supreme Creator. Man must face the consequences of his creations. No action, however trivial, is ever lost as we seek to show in this Revelation.

THE LAW OF KARMA
IN
HUMAN LIFE

Everywhere we find the law of Karma illustrated and especially do we find it working in human life. The old law of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, measure for measure, tit for tat, are but selfish and visible indications of the workings of Karma. In one of its highest manifestations we find altruism: "Give, and it shall be given unto you". You must pay for whatever you want by sacrifice, work, service or its equivalent in cash, for you cannot gain anything worthwhile for nothing. This may be summed up as "nothing ventured, nothing gained".

Those who refuse to labor or serve, do not eat. Try the secret of GIVING unto others what you desire yourself and you will be amazed by the benefits that flow to you from many directions.

. . . Give love, and you will reap love . . .
Give hate, and you suffer the consequences of its reaction.

Mayan Occultism emphasizes that might is not right and that ultimately those who obtain their ends by selfish methods reap the full fruits of their actions.



It is written that each man is his own law-giver,
Judge and the executor of his judgment.
Let a man but speak and he judges himself.
Consciously or unconsciously, he paints a picture of himself
For all to see.
Lies cannot hide the turbulent speech of the angry man
Who has not learned to control his passions
Nor will soft words keep secret a person's cowardice.
No man can do wrong in the ethical sense without suffering wrong.
An illustration of this truth may be found today in the fact that
The "strong" destroy themselves.
The very factors that help build an empire eventually destroy it.
No more than one can live without breathing,
CAN ONE ESCAPE THE EVENTUAL REWARD OR PUNISHMENT FOR HIS ACTIONS

- * -

There are many ways in which the ancient law of compensation is illustrated. One gets only what one pays for, never more and seldom less. Hire cheap labor or inexperienced help and you get a poor job poorly done. This is the absolute balance of the law of "Give and you shall receive -- give and take" which reveals that everything has its price and that the universe can be yours if you are willing to pay. Those who violate this natural and eternal law and seek by devious means, crime, vice, swindling or strength or aggression, only create the conditions wherein they will receive proper justice.

If Karmic law were not a fundamental truth of Nature, the Universe as we know it would collapse. To every action there must inevitably be a reaction or to every cause there must be an effect. If a person reasons merely from effects alone, the true cycle of justice can never be understood. In this we witness an ancient truth:

" . . . As Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

"And his disciples asked Him, saying, 'Master, who did sin; this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

"Jesus answered, 'Neither hath this man (the present human personality) sinned, nor his parents but he is this way that the works of God (the eternal law of Karma or justice) should be made manifest in him.

"'I (the Christos) must work the works (fulfill Karmic law) of HIM that sent me while it is day (the period of human earth life); the night cometh when no man can work.'"

- * -

In line with the many miracles performed by the Nazarene, on those who had not violated the laws of life in this present earth life, do we find many people, crippled from birth or suffering ill health, adverse environmental conditions, sorrow, or who come to a violent end in which there is no apparent cause. This leads us to deeper mysteries of Mayan Occultism that have to do with the re-birth of the soul and its progress through many lives. It is apparent to the reasonable mind that a God of Mercy and Love would not visit His wrath on the heads of innocents merely to make His work manifest. Indeed in line with many of the Bibles of humanity, the inner teachings of Jesus are hidden in parable or cryptic sayings.

One should never look upon Karmic law as applicable merely to human beings or as punishment. Karma works alike both in reward and punishment, merit and demerit, joy or sorrow, as it is the one impersonal law behind creation. The Wheel of Life of which the blessed Buddha taught during the years of his ministry in India twenty-six centuries ago, had as its motive power, Karma. It mattered little whether or not Karma produced a life of ease or comfort, a pleasant or a dull existence, a life of service or waste; for the same impersonal power justly meted out to the souls of men the exact outcome of their former thoughts, deeds or actions.

EVERYTHING THAT IS, IS KARMA

The Universe, coming into being, is but the primal manifestation of this Law of Life.

- * -

While the term KARMA has many meanings there are three main divisions of the law as it applies to human beings. There is:

I. The Karma we are experiencing in the present.

II. The Karma we are creating out of present deeds and actions for the future.

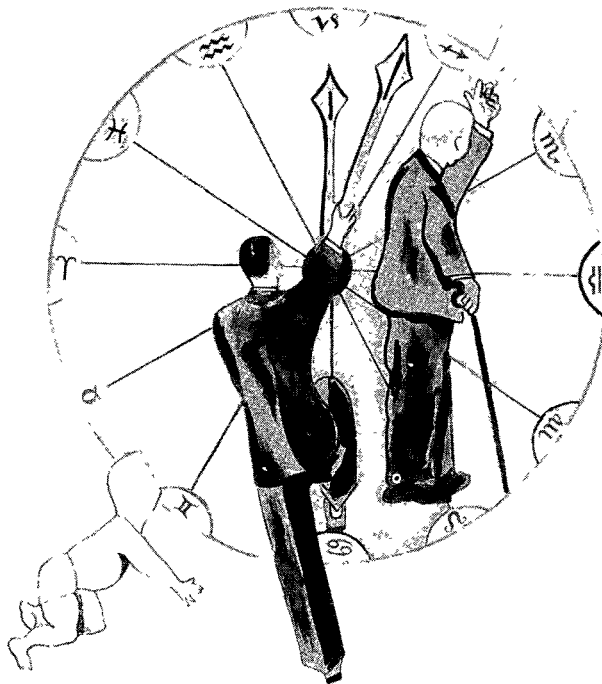
III. Another Karma which is often felt through the wisdom which permits the human soul to face only what it can safely bear.

Thus Karma is a most merciful law that stands behind the manifestations of the physical universe.

It is the ONE GREAT LAW that keeps the "angels" or spiritual powers whom the ancient Mayans taught were born in the Sun and Planets, continually working on a task so profound and so vast that the mind of man cannot grasp its purpose or design until he lifts himself from the narrow valleys of passion and climbs the Mayan pyramids of truth and beauty, nobility and spiritual purpose.

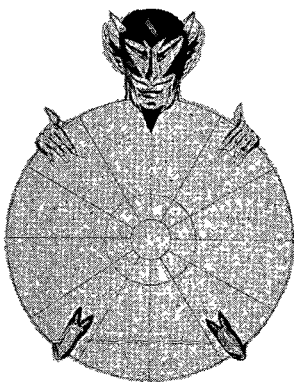
That face of the true Sun, now hidden in a vase of Golden Light as the very ancient Hindus chanted, conceals the secret of the mighty and majestic power of God, for the Sun is King and God to all creation that lies within the scope of His empire.

It was not idolatry that led the ancient Mayans to worship before the mighty symbol of the One God. They were not Sun-Worshippers but profound students of the occult mysteries of Nature.



Karma is also the law that compels the soul of man to seek experience in earth life or as the poets of old have said, to set in motion the Wheel of Life. This Wheel of Life is to be found in the signs of the Zodiac. In the horoscopolical arrangement of the signs, we have twelve Zodiacal signs, each governing one house of the horoscope.

Each horoscopolical house signifies a special department of human life and so all the varied experience of live comes under the houses. Even as the signs of the Zodiac, due to the rotation of the earth, apparently rise, culminate, set and then reach the nadir; even so does man follow a cycle of birth, maturity, decline and death and then - REBIRTH. Throughout the cycle, the human ego passes through the signs of the Zodiac, assimilating experience, understanding and purpose.



The Buddhists picturize the Wheel of Life as being in the grasp of Mara, whom some describe as the Devil but who really symbolizes Tanha, the lust for Life. This hideous monster clutches the Great Wheel with his hands and feet, It is HE, the desire for physical or embodied life, that keeps in motion this Wheel of Life.

It is Karmic law that keeps the soul of man on his wheel of existence or rebirth as long as there is any unexhausted desire latent within him. This is the real reason why all the great world teachers have taught altruism, for some day we will understand that true religion is the applied science of the soul. When one learns to act without desiring the fruit of that act then, and only then does one rise above the Wheel of Life and is no longer chained to its ceaseless motion. When selfishness prompts desire, then the reactions will be selfish, regardless of whether or not the Karma involved is good or bad, for it is still Karma.

Karma is the great guiding power which, with Tanha, the will or thirst for life, keeps the universe in motion. The physical and mental entity we call man is but the expression of certain urges, impulses or forces super-ensouled by the expression of the ONE LIFE OR SPIRIT. These basic tendencies or impulses make up what we term the personality.

There are five fundamentally important Skandhas or impulses behind the creation of human personality. These are:

- I. The physical vehicle or body and the material attributes of that body.
- II. The sensations.
- III. The powers of abstract thought or ideas.
- IV. The physical and mental tendencies.
- V. The mental and moral or ethical powers.

The Skandhas form the connecting link between the varied earth-life experience of the soul. They are the very essences of character. The Spirit of man

works through and by them and ever seeks to modify these tendencies.

The idea presented by the Skandhas explains why it is, that people bring into this life certain inherent or latent qualities of character, abilities, mental traits, ideas or purpose; why some are born with a genius for some one line: art, music, literature, oratory, business, finance, physical strength or any of the varied activity of mankind. Thus the doctrine of Karma can, when properly understood, give us great hope and assurance. The Universe will never cheat us -- we can only cheat ourselves.

KARMA IS THE DOCTRINE OF:

I. SECOND CHANCE

II. IMMORTALITY

III. JUSTICE

IV. PURPOSE

When you fully realize that no effort you make, no thought you think, no love you express or lavish on any of God's children is ever lost but is carefully placed, according to the nature of the act, upon either the merit or demerit side of your Book of Life, you will then gain that happy state that Jesus promises:

. . . . "The Peace that Passeth Understanding"

You will then work with a purpose, with an understanding and an intense love for all that lives. You will learn the truth behind the Mayan principle of "Give unto Others" for you will realize that selfishness merely blocks or dams your river of life, clogging it with rubbish and producing stagnation.

You will then know that as you give you shall receive and that your measure will overflow. Instead of regretting the wasted years or apparently frustrated ambitions you will consciously direct your abilities and be patient, for within the Great Design lies happiness . . . health . . . and splendor for YOU, if you but earn them.

Seek and you will find . . . Knock and the doors of LIFE MORE ABUNDANT will open before you. Such truths unconsidered from the standpoint of Karmic law or Universal Justice are trite and foolish but once the light of Karma is thrown upon them they become clear.

Every word you speak, every thought that passes through your mind, every action you direct is never lost but is inscribed forever on the imperishable record of your heart.

You are the creator of the Skandhas or the germs of character. By your deeds, thoughts and emotions you build within the temple of the living God, the beauty or ugliness of which depends on you alone and no one else. As ye sow - -

so shall ye reap. This is the ancient law, unchanged through the mutations of countless centuries, ever-existent, ever present, the One Great Power behind creation.

Your character is the sum total of your past and you are its editor. Character can draw from Nature anything you desire if you will but work with Her laws. The spiritual ego that ensouls the personality of man draws from the great storehouse of Nature the materials for the full Karmic expression of its consciousness. Thus if you want mental powers you must work along mental lines, develop the intellect and the intuitions through study, reflection, contemplation and abstract thought. Your success will of course be determined by persistence or desire. What you gain will never be lost for it becomes part and parcel of the Skandhas and so at one with your inherent character.

- * -

Do you suffer from pessimism, melancholy, anger, passion, hate or any of the darker sides of human nature?

By constructive thought and the substitution of OPTIMISM for pessimism, LOVE for hate, PATIENCE for anger, you can rise above these traits.

No one, no thing, no law in all this Universe compels that you live or die, suffer or be happy, love or hate, EXCEPT YOURSELF!

You cannot cheat Nature . . . and Nature will never cheat you.

THIS WE LEARN:

NO ACTION IS EVER LOST
BUT IS INSCRIBED FOREVER
ON THE IMPERISHABLE RECORD
OF THE HUMAN HEART